

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/667,407

Applicant(s)

RUBIN ET AL.

Examiner

Art Unit

Charlie C. Agwumezie

3621

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to communication filed on 09/23/03.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-19.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>12/23/03</u> | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Terminal Disclaimer

The terminal disclaimer filed on February 24, 2006 disclaiming the terminal portion of any patent granted on this application which would extend beyond the expiration date of **U.S. Patent No. 6,654,724** has been reviewed and is accepted. The terminal disclaimer has been recorded.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1-19, are allowed.

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The closest prior art of records are U.S. Patent No. 5,784,635 to McCallum and U.S. Patent No. 6,148,342 to Ho.

Applicant discloses a method for processing transactions while maintaining a customer's confidentiality includes receiving a customer's identity information and transaction information from a local system, at a local server; substituting the customer's identity information with a unique generic ID at the local server; forwarding the generic ID and transaction information from the local server to a distinct compliance system while retaining the customer's identity information at the local server, the transaction information being processed at the distinct compliance system to obtain compliance information by determining whether the transaction information is for a new transaction and, if the transaction information is for a new transaction, using the generic

ID to determine whether the transaction information is for an existing customer; receiving the compliance information and the generic ID, from the distinct compliance system, at the local server; retrieving the customer's identity information using the generic ID at the local server; and merging the received compliance information and the customer's identity information to obtain transaction fulfillment information.

McCallum discloses a system and a method for rationalizing physician data in which source data is collected from source computers located at for example physicians office, hospitals, testing laboratories and pharmacists. Sources data is expected to be in diverse formats and is converted to a common format. Source data is then cross-referenced and cleaned against standard data resources thereby avoiding keying errors and missing information may be supplied. McCallum discloses broad concept of anonymizing source data in the case where a group report is to be generated. McCallum, however discloses that the data is only anonymized at element 107 after being extracted periodically and transferred to a processing center.

McCallum however failed to disclose substituting the customer's identity information with a unique generic ID at the local server; forwarding the generic ID and transaction information from the local server to a distinct compliance system while retaining the customer's identity information at the local server, the transaction information being processed at the distinct compliance system to obtain compliance information by determining whether the transaction information is for a new transaction and, if the transaction information is for a new transaction, using the generic ID to determine whether the transaction information is for an existing customer; and merging

the received compliance information and the customer's identity information to obtain transaction fulfillment information as disclosed by the current application.

Ho discloses a system for managing sensitive data. The system prevents a system administrator from accessing sensitive data by storing data and identifier information on different computer systems. Ho further discloses a method of routing the data path from source terminal to identifier database which substitutes an internal ID, then to the data access database and back to the source terminal, thereby improving data security.

Ho however failed to disclose substituting the customer's identity information with a unique generic ID at the local server; forwarding the generic ID and transaction information from the local server to a distinct compliance system while retaining the customer's identity information at the local server, the transaction information being processed at the distinct compliance system to obtain compliance information by determining whether the transaction information is for a new transaction and, if the transaction information is for a new transaction, using the generic ID to determine whether the transaction information is for an existing customer; and merging the received compliance information and the customer's identity information to obtain transaction fulfillment information as disclosed by the current application

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

The prior arts made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicants disclosure.

- McCallum (U.S. Patent No. 5,784,635) discloses System and Method For The Rationalization of Physician Data
- Ho (U.S. Patent No. 6,148,342) discloses Secure Database management System for Confidential Records Using Separately Encrypted Identifier and Access Request.
- McCormick (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0035484 A1) discloses System and Method For Generating A Medication Prescription.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Charles C. Agwumezie whose number is **(571) 272-6838**. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday – Friday 8:00 am – 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James Trammell can be reached on **(571) 272 – 6712**.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll free).

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington D.C. 20231

Or faxed to:

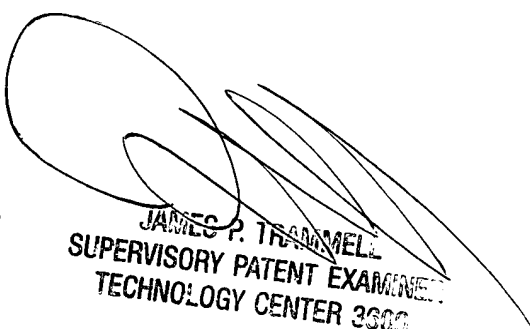
(571) 273-8300. [Official communications; including After Final communications labeled "Box AF"].

(571) 273-8300. [Informal/Draft communications, labeled "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT"].

Hand delivered responses should be brought to the United States Patent and Trademark Office Customer Service Window:

**Randolph Building,
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria VA. 22314**

**Charlie Lion Agwumezie
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 3621
May 4, 2006**



**JAMES P. TRAMMELL
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600**